



U.S. Department of Justice  
United States Attorney  
District of Kansas

## NEWS RELEASE

Eric Melgren, U.S. Attorney

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**Contact: Jim Cross**

(316) 269-6481

**Headquarters**  
1200 Epic Center  
301 N. Main  
Wichita, Kansas 67202  
(316)269-6481  
FAX (316)269-6484

**Topeka Office**  
444 Quincy  
Topeka, Kansas 66683

**Kansas City Office**  
500 State Avenue  
Suite 360  
Kansas City, Kansas 66101

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Oct. 29, 2004

## MAN CHARGED WITH SELLING CRACK COCAINE NEAR PARSONS MIDDLE SCHOOL

KANSAS CITY, KAN. – United States Attorney Eric Melgren announced today that **Dheadry Loyd Powell**, 47, Parsons, Kan., was charged today by a criminal complaint with one count of **distributing 12.77 grams of crack cocaine within 1,000 feet of Parsons Middle School.**

Powell was arrested Oct. 28 in Parsons and made his first appearance today in U.S. District Court in Kansas City, Kan.

A complaint filed with the court alleged that on July 8, 2003 a person who was cooperating with investigators met Powell at a car wash at 25<sup>th</sup> and Main streets in Parsons and paid Powell \$1,100 in return for 12.77 grams of crack cocaine. The car wash was located within 1,000 feet of Parsons Middle School.

The complaint also alleges Powell sold the cooperating individual a total of 2.39 grams of cocaine and 32.55 grams of crack cocaine during a series of transactions that took place in September, October and November 2002. Each of those transactions took place within 1,000 feet of Parsons Middle School or Labette County Community College.

According to the complaint, officers twice served search warrants at Powell's home at 1112 S. 24<sup>th</sup> in Parsons and twice found handguns in his possession. In both instances, Powell was prohibited from possessing a firearm because he had been convicted in 1993 on a charge of possession of cocaine with intent to sell. During the second search, which took place Oct. 28, 2004, officers found almost \$13,000 in cash, most of it hidden under a refrigerator.

If convicted, Powell faces not less than 10 years and not more than life in prison and an \$8 million fine due to his prior conviction. The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Internal Revenue Service, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,

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Firearms and Explosives, the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, the Labette County Sheriff's Office, the Labette County Attorney's Office and the Parsons Police Department. Assistant U.S. Attorney Scott Rask is prosecuting the case.

As in any criminal case, a person is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty. The charges filed merely contain allegations of criminal conduct.